

Abstract of the Disclosure

An illumination system employs a light distribution cylinder with an exterior surface in the form of a plurality of progressively smaller-diameter cylindrical steps. The outside surface of each cylindrical step is interrupted by V-shaped grooves perpendicular to the axis of the cylinder. Each surface of these V-shaped grooves acts to internally reflect divergent light from a light source positioned at the end of the tube. The light distribution cylinders may be solid or hollow and configured with bilateral symmetry to receive light from either end. The illumination system rearranges divergent directional light from a light source into non-directional light emitted in a cylindrical pattern useful for area illumination.

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